

Today's Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL CITY HALL.

Under most Distinguished Patronage,
ON
MONDAY NEXT, the 7th February, 1898.

BOXING CONTEST UNDER MARQUIS OF QUEENSBERRY RULES.

30 ROUND CONTEST between

NORTHOTT, v. W. S. BAILEY,
Navy, v. *Hongkong Amateur Champion.*

FOR HANDSOME SI. VER CUP.
On View at ROBINSON'S PIANO STORE,
Master of Ceremonies, Mr. C. T. ROBINSON
ALSO 3 OTHER CONTESTS.

Prominent local Amateurs have kindly promised to officiate as Referees and Judges.

Commence at 9 P.M. Sharp.
PRICES OF ADMISSION:—Stage Seats \$3; Dress Circle and Stalls \$2; Back Seats 50 cents.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1898. [242]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR YOKOHAMA (DIRECT).

THE Company's Steamship

"CARMARTHENSHIRE,"

Captain Stockwell, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 5th instant, at 5 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1898. [276]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SAMARANG AND SOERABAYA.

THE Company's Steamship

"HUPEH,"

Captain Q. will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 7th instant at 5 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1898. [204]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

(UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.)

STEAM TO SHANGHAI AND KOBE.

THE Company's Steamship

"MARIA VALERIE,"

Captain R. Mills, will leave for the above places on SATURDAY, the 12th instant, P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SANDER & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1898. [213]

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & COMPANY,

VICTORIA DISPENSARY, HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYVADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a duly qualified English Chemist and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MESSERS and other Large Consumers.

Any complaints should be addressed to the Manager.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1897. [30]

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES & SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London House, bought direct at first hand, imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply the best goods at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month before use. When required for drinking at once it should be ordered to be decanted at the Dispensary before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner Wines of very superior Vintages. All are true Xeres Wines.

CLARET.—Our Claret, including the lowest priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the vines of the grape and are not artificially made from raisins and currants, as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY.—All our Brandy is guaranteed to be pure Cognac, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY.—All our Whisky is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY marked "P" is the best local condensation to be superior to any other brand in the Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 24 December, 1897. [7]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1898.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Is a Judge a member of the Civil Service? In one, the most general sense in which the phrase can be used, perhaps he is. It may not improperly be said that all those who serve the Crown and are not members of the Naval or Military services are in the civil service of the Crown. A Judge certainly serves the Crown, but is he a Civil Servant? Is he a member of the "Civil Service" spelled with a big "C" and a big "S"? It seems very doubtful. The members of the Civil Service, properly so called, not only owe their appointments and receive their emoluments from the Crown but they are under obedience to the Crown and to their superior officers in the service. A Judge in the performance of his functions as Judge owes no such obedience to any person whomsoever, not even to the Queen's Majesty herself. He calls no man Master. He is only under God and the Law. In England the Judges are only removable by the combined action of the Queen, Lords and Commons, and not by any one of the three alone. In the Colonies, they are subject to removal by the Crown alone acting through the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to suspension by the Governor in extreme cases, but in the performance of their duties as Judges they are uncontrollable except by the Courts of Appeal.

These observations are suggested by the part taken by the Judges in the presentation of the Civil Service address to the late Governor and by the language in which that address was framed, and it is the opinion of very many in the Colony that the proper representative of the members of the Civil Service would have been the Colonial Secretary and not the Chief Justice, and that, considering the language used in the address, it should not have borne the signature of the Judges. No Judge in England deems himself a member of the Civil Service, and if Colonial Judges are sometimes selected from the ranks of the Civil Service, they should not forget that on their appointment to the Bench they enter upon a career which involves duties and responsibilities of a very much higher grade and demands a totally different attitude towards the Executive and its Ministers.

Reuter informs us that the battleship *Barfleur*, a sister-ship to the flagship *Centurion*, is to leave for Hongkong on Sunday next. The Singapore *Free Press* has a telegram that the *Hannibal* and *Illustrious* have already sailed for the East and that war is probable; but this seems quite incredible. Reuter, with all his faults, could scarcely have omitted to mention such important news if true, and it may therefore be safely considered untrue. The two vessels are probably going to the Mediterranean Squadron.

Our telegram from Shanghai announcing the withdrawal of British demands in connection with the proposed loan to China is corroborated by Reuter's telegram, as far as it goes. Our correspondent stated that some of the most essential stipulations had been abandoned; Reuter specifies the opening of Tientsin to trade as the point which is dropped. There may be others. In any case, the abandonment of claims is always inadvisable, and can only be excused on the ground that the custom of the East is to ask more than is really meant. It is a very weak policy. The opening of Tientsin as a treaty port would have been valuable in several ways. It would be a practical demonstration of the argument that Britain is not in want of territory but desires free markets where she and all the other nations may trade on equal terms. It would have been another step in the right direction, towards the development of China's commercial resources and the propagation of the civilizing and pacific influence of trade; and it would have constituted one more safeguard against annexation of Chinese territory by the land-grabbing Powers, since the acquisition of business interests at a treaty port would make all nations so much the less willing to let any individual Power take possession and set up a tariff-barrier against the rest.

The confession of the ex-inspector of police who was convicted by a jury on a charge of accepting bribes from gambling house keepers, has been published by authority, and has an importance which cannot be overlooked, though the subject is so painful to many that it is better passed over with as little comment as possible. There have been many in the Colony who expressed a burning sense of indignation and a firm belief that the man was innocent; we have frequently heard fierce denunciations of witnesses for the prosecution, who were not of the highest repute, and equally fierce tirades against the gentlemen who found it their duty to act on the evidence, such as it was. Mr. WITHELL by his brave avowal has done the right thing; it must have cost him an almost heroic effort to speak out as he has done, after all that has passed, and he has thereby done much to wipe out the stain of his one lapse. Such lapses are serious for the Colony; but, considering his circumstances, considering how prevalent was the custom which he only commenced to follow, considering how little difference legally makes to the gambling instincts of humanity whether the police do or do not carry out the paradoxical British gambling laws, considering how well and faithfully WITHELL had served for many years,

and considering that he has a wife and family—in view of all these considerations, it is impossible to avoid feeling profound sympathy for him. He has suffered far more than some of his comrades who were far worse. What he said of his accusers may be passed over now; it is well that he has had the courage to take it all back—a courage that is rare, we regret to say—and it removes a good deal of ill feeling which might have lived long. He does himself no harm by thus removing all doubt as to the facts and confirming the verdict of the jury; and, as an industrious, sober, intelligent and faithful servant, who has served once and fearlessly comes forward to make a clean breast of it, he will, we trust, be given an opportunity somewhere to make a fresh start and wipe out the past.

TELEGRAMS.

["HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SPECIAL.]

REPORTED RUSSIAN MOVE ON KIRIN.

BELIEVED TO BE A CANARD.

SHANGHAI, February 3rd, 7 p.m.

A report has been in circulation that a party of Russian troops arrived at Kirin a few days ago. The Kirin correspondent of the *Mercury* telegraphs a denial of the statement.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

THE FAR EAST.

LONDON, February 2nd.

The *Times*'s Peking correspondent states that Great Britain has definitely withdrawn the request that Tientsin be made a free port, as a condition of the loan.

CRICKET—THE FOURTH TEST MATCH.

Stoddart's eleven were all out for 262, Australia winning by eight wickets.

RE-INFORCEMENTS FOR THE BRITISH SQUADRON IN THE FAR EAST.

H.M.S. *Barfleur*, battleship, sails for China on Sunday, February 6th.

POLITICAL SPEECH.

Mr. Pritchard Morgan, speaking at Aberdeen, advocated an understanding between Russia and Great Britain, for which he considered public opinion was ripe.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE STRAITS ASSOCIATION.

Sir Thomas Sutherland, speaking at the dinner of the Straits Association, said the prosperity of the Straits involves the safety of the Empire. The Chairman, enquired the work done by Sir F. A. Swettenham, whose rule was equally satisfactory to Europeans and Natives.

Sir F. A. Swettenham said that the increase in imports to the Straits came from the demand of the Malay States. All the Malays realized that their position would be greatly improved by the completion of the railway scheme, one of the greatest evidences of development, which was due to Mr. Chamberlain, and by which the prosperity of the Malay States was assured.

GERMANY IN CHINA.

Germany demands the concession of another railway (harbour) south of Kiao Chau in compensation for the murder of a sailor.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The buying rate for sovereigns is \$10.65 per £.

Mr. Frank Lincoln arrived here from Shanghai by the P. & O. *Borneo* to-day.

His Lordship the Chief Justice has reserved his judgment in the *Masso* property case.

It is reported that Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, will obtain the Lieutenantcy in the Volunteer Corps caused by the death of Lieut. Wylie.

FRANCE. Pakre Ning Prang, a Malay potentate in the Dutch Indies, has been deposed and banished for having an illicit arrack distillery in his palace.

A HOUSE boy in the employ of Comde. R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., was to-day fined \$5 on one month's imprisonment for disobedience of lawful orders.

THE Band of the K. O. L. Regiment will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess this evening, commencing at 8 o'clock:—

Overture—"Gulliana" (Tall) "Rustle."

Selection—"Gulliana" (Tall) "Rustle."

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He—After studying your mood and tenor for months, I have concluded that you love me. Am I right?
She—No, sir. You are left.
A MAN who received a bill for a book that he had no recollection of having ordered, sent the following answer: "I never ordered the book. If I did, you did not send it. If I got it I paid for it. If I didn't I won't."

"I HAD awful hard luck," said the forger to his companion in goal. "I spent a month getting the signature of a reputed millionaire down free, and just as I had the cheque ready, the darn fool went into bankruptcy."

In the match at Sydney between Stoddart's Eleven and New South Wales McLearen broke two bats while making his second century. With his third bat he played forward to one of Noble's puzlers and promptly lost his balls.

An open verdict was returned by the Police Magistrate to-day regarding the recent fire at the Lunatic Asylum. Addressing the Chief Ward boy, His Worship said that the patients should always be looked after. Fortunately in this case no person had been injured.

TO-MORROW afternoon on the Happy Valley on the ground of the H.K. Football Club, the Colts will play H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel* in the second round for the Football Challenge Shield. Kick-off at 4 p.m. The previous match resulted in a draw although extra time was played.

THE Scotch bagpipes are not the only variety of the weapon. In Ireland, too, they play pipes; and the "last of the Irish pipers," Tuilach M'Sweeney (chirloo) recently arrived in Scotland to show the natives what pipe music really is. Tuilach is descended from the kings of Donegal, and speaks only "Irish Gaelic." His opinion of Scotch bagpipes is not high. "What do you think of the Highland pipes?" asked an interviewer. "Foolish!" said the ancient superciliously, "only fit for a rump. Please nobody but Gordon Highlanders." "Born to evidence lately, nevertheless," suggested the interviewer. "Yes," admitted Mr. M'Sweeney, "but it's a bad thing to think that even savages run away from that music."

THE French Consul at Hankow is not a "sport" in any sense of the word neither is he, apparently, the most amiable gentleman in existence. He doesn't care a "tinker's curse" for public opinion and to show his own considerations he recently flashed upon the good folk of Hankow the following elegant proclamation:—
Translation: Consul Ordinance No. 8.
We, Consul for France at Hankow, in virtue of the regulations relating to the loss in perpetuity of the powers vested in us, in view of the land within the limits of the French Consession, dated the 2nd of June, 1896,
Seeing, with the consent of the Municipal Council, that the laying down and the making of roads will have to be started on the aforesaid Consession;
You are ordered, and we hereby do order you as follows:
Article I.—From the 1st of February, 1898, it will be forbidden, within the limits of the French Consession:
Firstly, to play at golf, cricket, etc., except on enclosed ground;
Secondly, to allow horses to run wild, by day or by night;
Article II.—Horse racing will be forbidden within the radius of the Consession.
Hankow, the 17th of December, 1897.
The Consul for France
(Signed) J. DAUTEMER.

Thus ends a dispute which has been in progress for nearly two years. The Hankow Races were held on a piece of unoccupied ground partly or wholly within the limits of the French Consession, and early in 1896 through some trivial quarrel the consul took it into his head to forbid the use of the land for that purpose. Negotiations have been going on intermittently ever since.

To the *Martins Francaise* "Commandant Z" contributes an article under the title of "L'Almagre en Marche," which is worthy of notice. It is a study from a standpoint which we need not accept as altogether sound of the effect on the Naval equilibrium of the Powers of Germany's occupation of Kiao Chau. France, Russia, and England, contends the writers, are all threatened. Russia is warned not to proceed to the southward of the Gulf of Pechili; France her possessions in the Far East in danger; and this country discovers that a base has been secured which will speedily rival Hongkong, and from which cruisers will issue to prey on British commerce. Our trade with the Baltic can be swept away by German cruisers; and the value of Kiao Chau is enhanced by the possession of Angora Pequena and Dar-es-Salaam. These places would require fortifying, and from them swarms of torpedo-boats might issue. There is a certain element of truth in this, but it is not the whole truth. In the first place, the destruction of our commerce in the Baltic is a matter which, after the early period of the war, must depend on the question of Sea Power, or on the other question whether or not there is any commerce in the Baltic worth our while to endeavour to retain for the moment. The latter will depend on political considerations which need not be discussed here. As to the Far East, Germany will hardly care to retain Kiao Chau, on the mainland, with Russia on her back. International friendships are ephemeral, and Germany will probably prefer an island. Angora Pequena and Dar-es-Salaam will need a good deal of money spent on their fortifications if they are to be of efficient bases, and torpedo-boats will be far less expensive toys with a very limited radius of action. If Germany possesses herself of an island station, it will be ultimately at the mercy of the dominant Naval Power in those waters, and as war cannot be localised, this must eventually mean the stronger Naval Power in a world-wide contest. Time may be required, but in the long run, the fate of an isolated island is inevitable. Consequently, though there is every reason why we should not withhold our hand in the opening up of China, the lesson for us is that we must maintain the command of the sea.

His Honor the Acting District Judge in Colombo delivered judgment on the 4th instant, in the matter of the Insolvency of D. P. Weeraslobo, a clerk in the Railway department, which will be read with interest by our readers.
The insolvent is a young clerk of the Railway department. His assets are nil, and the only debt proved against him is one of Rs. 37.50 due to one S. D. Mahipala Chetty upon a judgment in case No. 2024 of this Court. The Chetty put him in jail for this debt, upon which the insolvent was compelled to seek the protection of this Court. The Chetty's claim was based upon a promissory note for Rs. 37.50 signed by the insolvent and two others, and made payable in instalments, interest being calculated at the exorbitant rate of sixty per cent. After the payment of one instalment, default was made, and the Chetty in December, 1896, obtained judgment against the makers for the balance Rs. 37.50 and interest due Rs. 112.50. Although the insolvent offered Rs. 60 to his creditor as the amount justly due to him, he would not accept it, with the deliberate intention of compelling his father, an old catchall, to pay down the last failing of his numerous interests. In this expectation I am glad to find that the Chetty has signally failed.

In throwing a pailful sum of Rs. 60, jointly with two others I cannot say that the insolvent has been securing a debt which he had no prospect of paying, and I find that his insolvency has been entirely due to the unworldly misfortune of having too grasping and unreasonable a creditor.

I award the insolvent a certificate of the first class, and trust that these proceedings have in no way lessened his position in the service of Government.
(Signed) FRANK R. DILL,
A.D.J.

FOR breaking into the quarters of Inspector McDonald at Yan-mai-l yesterday, one coolie was fined \$5 to-day and two confederates were fined \$10 each.

FOR assaulting a woman with a brick a Chinaman was to-day fined \$10 and ordered to pay the complainant \$5 as amends. The woman's face was smashed up in a really artistic fashion and the man had some bandages round his head caused by a fall down stairs.

THE heavy weight boxing match between T. Northcott and W. S. Bailey will take place at the City Hall on Monday next at 9 p.m. This promises to be one of the best goes of the season, and all lovers of the sport can be assured that they will get their money's worth.

LAST evening the Hernandez Novelty Company gave their second performance at the City Hall to a thin audience. The show throughout was a good one, Mr. Hernandez' banjo playing, and the dances of Sisters Paradise being very much admired. Corpl. Williams of the Royal Lancasters again favoured with some of his comic sketches and had a most enthusiastic reception. Mr. James Oxberry, tenor singer of high quality, fairly captivated the audience, especially in his last song entitled "The Last Shot" when he donned the garb of an Australian mounted infantryman. The funny element was well filled by Mr. Harry Aldridge. If we had had to pay for the Hall like Mr. Hernandez we should certainly object to a rehearsal of a smoking concert in a room next door.

If, as is reported from India, more than one commanding officer has left his regiment in order to accept service as a special correspondent, the utmost limit of irregularity has been reached. When Parliament assembles there ought to be a full enquiry into the matter, for it cannot be in any sense for the benefit of the service when such a loose system prevails, presumably with the full cognisance of those in high military authority. It is not perhaps to be wondered at that generals in command prefer military to civilian correspondents, but whether the House of Commons will be blinded by official arguments remains to be seen. Evidently there is a tendency to overstep all bounds, and the taxpayers have a right to demand the fullest information as to the extent to which the irregularity has gone on the Indian frontier.
The World.

An old lady of Mr. Spurgeon's congregation once called upon him, writes an English paper, with a grievance. The pastor's neck-bands were too long for her idea of ministerial humility, and, after a long speech on the sin of pride, she intimated that she had brought her scissors with her, and would be pleased if her dear pastor would allow to clip them down to her notions of propriety. The pastor not only listened patiently, but handed her over the offending white bands to operate upon. When she had cut them to her satisfaction, it was the pastor's turn. "Now," said he, "you must do me a good turn also." "Yes," said the lady, "I will, what can it be?" "Well, you have something about you which is a deal too long and causes me a good deal of trouble, and I should like to see it shorter." "Indeed, sir, I will not hesitate. What is it? Here are the scissors; use them as

